

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A fluid bearing motor according to claim 50, wherein:
said fixed shaft includes a small diameter portion and a large diameter portion,
the hollow cylinder is formed with a projection at a part of its inner periphery, and
the projection is arranged in such manner that it is positioned within the diameter of the
large diameter portion of the fixed shaft and outside the small diameter portion.
2. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 1,
wherein the projection is circular, having a small-bore portion formed at the inner
periphery of said hollow cylinder.
3. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 1,
wherein a first stepped surface formed by the small-bore portion at the inner periphery of
said hollow cylinder and a second stepped surface formed by the small-diameter portion at the
outer periphery of said fixed shaft are opposed to each other with a predetermined clearance
provided therebetween.
4. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 1,
wherein the projection is formed of a stop ring, and
one surface of said stop ring abuts a third stepped surface formed at the inner periphery of
said hollow cylinder.
5. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 1, 2, 3 or 4,
wherein the predetermined clearance between the first stepped surface and the second
stepped surface ranges from 5 μm to 100 μm .

6. (Previously presented) The fluid bearing motor of claims 1 or 4,
wherein said fixed shaft is made from a magnetic material,
the clearance between the first stepped surface and the second stepped surface is filled
with magnetic fluid, and

a magnet is disposed on said chassis, opposing to the inner periphery of said hollow
cylinder at the chassis side rather than the projection.

7. (Previously presented) The fluid bearing motor of claims 1 or 4,
wherein said fixed shaft is made from a magnetic material,
the clearance between the first stepped surface and the second stepped surface is filled
with magnetic fluid, and

a magnet is disposed at the inner periphery of said hollow cylinder at the chassis side
rather than the projection.

8. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 6,
wherein said stop ring is made from a magnetic material.

9. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 7,
wherein said stop ring is made from a magnetic material.

10. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 4,
wherein said stop ring is made from a resin material having a low friction factor.

11. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 4,
wherein said fixed shaft is made from a magnetic material, and
the clearance between the first stepped surface and the second stepped surface is filled
with magnetic fluid, and

said stop ring is formed of a permanent magnet.

12. (Previously presented) The fluid bearing motor of claims 4 or 10, wherein in the vicinity of the first stepped surface, the inner periphery of said hollow cylinder is tapered to increase in bore diameter as it approaches the projection.

13. (Currently amended) A fluid bearing motor according to claim 50, wherein:
~~comprising:~~

said fixed bearing member comprises a first inner periphery and a second inner periphery, the first inner periphery is smaller in diameter than the second inner periphery, the hollow cylinder is formed with a projection at a part of its outer periphery, and the projection is arranged in such manner that it is positioned within the diameter of the second inner periphery of the fixed bearing member and outside the first inner periphery.

14. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 13, wherein said projection is formed of a circular stop ring.

15. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 13, wherein a dynamic pressure generating groove is formed in at least one of the first inner periphery and the outer periphery of the hollow cylinder;

the upper end of the fixed side bearing and the lower end of the flange are opposed to each other with a predetermined clearance provided therebetween;

a dynamic pressure generating groove is formed in at least one of the upper end surface of the fixed side bearing and the lower end surface of the flange; and

the hydrodynamic lubricant is filled (i) between the first inner periphery and the outer periphery of the hollow cylinder, (ii) between the upper end of the fixed side bearing and the lower end of the flange, and (iii) between the first stepped surface and the second stepped surface.

16. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 13,
wherein the hollow cylinder and the flange are integrally formed from same material.
17. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 13, 14, or ~~to~~ 15,
wherein the stop ring is made from a resin material having low friction characteristics.
18. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 13, 14, or ~~to~~ 15,
further comprising a permanent magnet fixed on the chassis, opposing to the other
surface of the stop ring with a clearance provided therebetween,
wherein the fixed side bearing is formed from a magnetic material.
19. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 13, 14, or ~~to~~ 15,
further comprising a permanent magnet fixed on the other surface of the stop ring,
wherein the fixed side bearing is formed from a magnetic material.
20. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 18,
wherein the stop ring is formed from a magnetic material.
21. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 19,
wherein the stop ring is formed from a magnetic material.
22. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 13, 14, 15 or ~~to~~ 16,
wherein the predetermined clearance between the stepped surface and the other surface of
the stop ring ranges from 5 μm to 100 μm .
23. (Currently amended) The fluid bearing motor of claims 13, 14, 15 or ~~to~~ 16,
wherein the chassis has a positioning projection for positioning the fixed side bearing.
24. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 23,
wherein the positioning projection is ring-form, and the outer periphery of the fixed side
bearing engages the inner periphery of the positioning projection.

25. (Original) The fluid bearing motor of claim 24,
wherein the positioning projections are at least three columnar projections which
externally come in contact with the outer periphery of the fixed side bearing.

26-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently amended) A fluid bearing motor comprising:
a hollow cylinder passed through via axis of rotational center;
a flange formed at one end of said hollow cylinder;
a rotor section provided with a rotary magnet disposed on outer bottom of said flange;
~~a fixed bearing member;~~
a rotary bearing member configured with an outer cylinder surface of said hollow
cylinder and a bottom end of said flange;
a chassis;
a generally cylindrical fixed bearing member secured to said chassis and configured with
an inner cylinder surface supporting said hollow cylinder so as to be rotatable via a small first
radial space and a plane supporting an inner side bottom end of the flange so as to rotate in an
axial direction at upper surface of said plane;
a hydrodynamic lubricant filled between said fixed bearing member and said rotary
bearing member;
~~a rotor section having a hollow cylinder in the middle thereof, a flange formed at one end~~
~~of said hollow cylinder, and a rotary magnet disposed on said flange;~~
a fixed shaft with one end fixed on the chassis, which passes through the hollow cylinder
via a second radial space wider than said first radial space; and

a stator provided with a coil which generates a rotational force in cooperation with the rotary magnet;

~~wherein said fixed bearing member is disposed on the chassis,~~

~~said fixed bearing member and said rotary bearing member configure a bearing which rotatably supports said rotor section, and~~

~~the bearing is arranged at a position apart from said fixed shaft.~~